

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-10

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 RSC-01 SS-15 SSO-00 ISO-00 NEA-06 NSC-05

NSCE-00 /038 R

DRAFTED BY EA/PRCM:OVARSTRONG:MFR

APPROVED BY S/S - MR. EALUM

EA:WGLEESTEEN

NEA:BLAINGEN (SUBS)

EA:AWHUMMEL,JR

S - MR. BREMER

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O 122334Z DEC 74 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 273145

TOSEC 126

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, PK, CH

SUBJECT: ACTION MEMORANDUM: BHUTTO INVITATION TO GEORGE
BUSH TO VISIT (S/S NO. 7424405)

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM HUMMEL

1. ABOUT A WEEK AGO AMBASSADOR BYROADE CABLED GEORGE BUSH SAYING THAT BHUTTO WISHED TO INVITE BUSH AND WIFE FOR A VISIT SOME TIME IN JANUARY. IN HIS REPLY, BUSH SAID THAT THIS WAS A RENEWAL OF AN INVITATION MADE ABOUT A YEAR AGO, AND ASKED BYROADE TO RESPOND THAT HE AND MRS. BUSH COULD ,ROBABLY VISIT JUST BEFORE OR AFTER HIS PLANNED TRIP TO WASHINGTON JANUARY 22-31. (PERHAPS BUSH DISCUSSED THIS WASHINGTON TRIP WITH YOU OR HABIB, WHO IS STILL AT THE CHIEFS OF MISSION CONFERENCE, BUT EA HAS NO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THIS.) BUSH ALSO NOTED THAT HE ASSUMED DEPT. HAD NO OBJECTION.

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2. WE DECIDED THIS SHOULD BE CHECKED WITH YOU, BUT OUR

TELEGRAM TO BYROADE ASKING HIM TO HOLD DID NOT REACH HIM
IN TIME. BHUTTO SUGGESTED ABOUT JANUARY 18. IN HIS
RESPONSE TO DEPT'S MESSAGE, BYROADE STATED, "IF YOU FEEL
IT NECESSARY TO TURN VISIT DOWN, BELIEVE YOU SHOULD FIND
SOME PLAUSIBLE REASON OTHER THAN POLICY, AS I WOULD THINK
THIS MIGHT BE DIFFICULT FOR BHUTTO TO UNDERSTAND. I VERY

MUCH HOPE THAT DEPARTMENT CAN SEE FIT TO LET VISIT
PROCEED."

3. BUSH VISIT WITH BHUTTO MIGHT PROMPT SOME SPECULATION
GENERALLY AND SOME CONCERN IN INDIA. LATTER MIGHT BE
ALLAYED IF HE ALSO STOPPED OFF IN NEW DELHI. ON BALANCE,
HOWEVER, EA AND NEA ARE INCLINED TO CONCUR WITH VISIT TO
PAKISTAN, LETTING IT BE KNOWN AS NECESSARY THAT VISIT IS
RESULT OF RENEWAL OF INVITATION MADE ABOUT A YEAR AGO AND
THAT VISIT IS PERSONAL NOT OFFICIAL.

4. RECOMMENDATION:
THAT WE INFORM BUSH AND BYROADE THAT DEPT CONCURS IN
BUSH'S ACCEPTANCE OF BHUTTO INVITATION.

APPROVE

DISAPPROVE

INGERSOLL

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NNN

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